

Message Text

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TO USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241903

FOR JAMES HALSEMA USIA/IO

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM SANTIAGO SEPT 27:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 9431

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMANN FROM POPPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY CI

SUBJECT CARNEGIE INSTITUTION DEDICATION

REF: STATE 239650

1. OUR LATEST WHO'S WHO (1974-1975) INDICATES THAT AS OF ITS PUBLICATION DATE ONLY PUBLIC OFFICE HELD BY DR FRANK STANTON WAS THAT OF CHAIRMAN OF US ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INFORMATION. I VAGUELY RECOLLECT THAT HE MAY SUBSEQUENTLY HAVE ACCEPTED OTHER US GOVERNMENT POSTS IN THE INTELLIGENCE OR INFORMATION FIELD. IF I AM WRONG ABOUT THIS -- OR IF THESE FUNCTIONS ARE NOT THE OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION -- THEN DR STANTON'S QUESTION ESSENTIALLY BOILS DOWN TO WHETHER OR NOT A DISTINGUISHED PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL SHOULD ATTEND A MEETING WITH PINOCHET INCIDENTAL TO THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW DUPONT TELESCOPE IN CHILE.

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2. FROM THE US GOVERNMENT STANDPOINT, I CAN SEE NO REASON WHY DR STANTON SHOULD NOT FORM PART OF A GROUP

MEETING PRESIDENT PINOCHET, AFTER THE CEREMONIES AT THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OBSERVATORY NORTH OF LA SERENA. (IT IS POSSIBLE THOUGH NOT CERTAIN THAT PINOCHET MIGHT TURN UP AT THAT CEREMONY.) U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE NOT AVOIDED CONTACTS WITH GOC OFFICIALS. THE EXPERIENCE OF THE OTHER MAJOR AMERICAN OBSERVATORY IN CHILE, RUN BY AURA, HAS BEEN THAT FRIENDLY RELATIONS HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED UNDER ALL THE REGIMES IN CHILE, ON A NON-POLITICAL BASIS. IT IS OBVIOUSLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION TO FOLLOW THE SAME PATTERN. THIS WOULD INVOLVE AN AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE BY A SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF THE VISITING CARNEGIE AUTHORITIES IF PINOCHET INVITES THEM TO CALL ON HIM FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8.

3. IF DR STANTON SHOULD FIND IT DISTASTEFUL TO PARTICIPATE IN A GROUP CALL ON PINOCHET, HE COULD ARRANGE TO LEAVE FOR HOME WHEN THE CARNEGIE GROUP RETURNS FROM LA SERENA OCTOBER 7. I WOULD SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT DR STANTON CONSIDER TWO POINTS IN THIS CONNECTION. FIRST, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO CARNEGIE TO HAVE A SIZEABLE REPRESENTATION IN A MEETING WITH PINOCHET. SECOND, PARTICIPANTS IN SUCH A MEETING COULD STRESS THE STRICTLY SCIENTIFIC AND NON-POLITICAL NATURE OF THE CARNEGIE ENTERPRISE; IF A POLITICAL DISCUSSION SHOULD ENSUE, DR STANTON WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DESCRIBE U.S. PUBLIC SENTIMENT VIS-A-VIS CHILE. PINOCHET GETS VERY LITTLE DIRECT EXPOSURE OF THIS TYPE TODAY. POPPER UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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